

SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS COMMUNICATIONS

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

County and City Housing Authorities Offer Information on Section 8 Program

(Sedgwick County, Kansas) – Sedgwick County and The City of Wichita Section 8 Programs intend to expand the housing options for Section 8 Rental Assistance by increasing the number of landlords who accept the Section 8 Vouchers. Rental assistance amounts paid to landlords differ based on tenant income, household size and reasonable rent determinations for the area in which the unit is located. Units must pass a Housing Quality Standard Inspection prior to the unit being approved. The unit then is inspected annually for compliance; the inspections are conducted by Housing Authority Inspectors.

The Sedgwick County Housing Authority assists over 300 households in Sedgwick County outside the City of Wichita, as well as Butler and Harvey Counties.

The City of Wichita Section 8 program is currently assisting over 2400 households with rent payments.

Eligible households are provided vouchers that they can use for rental properties.

Landlords who accept the vouchers complete their own screening of potential tenants and make determinations about renting their units similar to the background checks they perform for tenants without vouchers.

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"We feel it is very important to assist both the tenants and landlords with this terrific program," said Sedgwick County Commission Chairman Ben Sciortino. "This is a great way for us to help the citizens of Sedgwick County."

In order to provide information to landlords who currently do not participate in the program, Sedgwick County Housing Office and the City of Wichita Housing Services Department are holding an informational session on Thursday, July 11, 2002 at 7 p.m. at the Stanley/Aley Neighborhood City Hall, 1749 S. Martinson. Pre-registration is requested for the session by calling 268-4688.